



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,918	03/31/2004	Frederick Thomas David Goldie	34-126	5701
23117	7590	06/30/2005		
			EXAMINER	
			NGUYEN, TUYEN T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2832	

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/812,918	GOLDIE, FREDERICK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TUYEN T. NGUYEN	2832	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 June 2005.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 7-9 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 7-9 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date .
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

The indicated allowability of claims 7-9 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Hinks et al. [US 6,507,190], Yamagata [US 5,568,051]. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 7, line 3, there is no antecedent basis for “the MRI coil.” In lines 3-4, applicant should clarify what is intended by “each section of *the MRI coil incorporating some or all of said plurality of layers, but only some of the turns in each layer.*” Claims 8-9 inherit the defects of the parent claim.

Regarding claim 8, line 2, there is no antecedent basis for “the insulation.”

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7-8, as best understood in view of the rejection under 35 USC 112 second paragraph, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagata [US 5,568,051] in view of Hinks et al. [US 6,507,190].

Yamagata discloses an MRI apparatus [figure 10] comprising an MRI shim coil [91] having a plurality of layers with a plurality of turns with insulating layer therebetween, wherein the MRI shim coil including two or more sections [92a, 92b, ...92h] with each section of the MRI shim coil incorporating some of the plurality of layers.

Yamagata discloses the instant claimed invention except for the specific arrangement of the MRI shim coil turns in each layer.

Hinks et al. discloses an MRI apparatus [figure 7] having at least one MRI shim coil [406], each shim coil having a plurality of layers [408, 410] with a plurality of turns [x, y, z] and only some of the turns [x, y, figure 8 or z of figure 9] in each layer.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use the shim coil arrangement of Hinks et al. in Yamagata for the purpose of providing shim to the polarizing field B_0 .

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagata in view of Hinks et al. as applied to claims 7-8 above, and further in view of Miyamoto et al. [US 4,672,346].

Yamagata in view of Hinks et al. discloses the instant claimed invention except for the specific material for the insulating layer.

Miyamoto et al. discloses an MRI apparatus having shim [2] including shim coils with an insulating material [r] formed of glass fiber.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use glass fiber for insulating material of Yamagata, as modified, as suggested Miyamoto et al., for the purpose of providing better insulation.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TUYEN T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 571-272-1996. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, ELVIN ENAD can be reached on 571-272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TTN *TTN*

Tuyen T. Nguyen